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J&K CHIEF OF HIZB SAIFULLAH LIQUIDATED IN ENCOUNTER

His killing, just months after he took over as Hizbul commander, comes as a huge success for the security forces

ONE OF THE LAST MEMBERS OF BURHAN GROUP

Acting on a tip-off about the presence of terrorists in Rangreth, near Srinagar, a search party comprising members of CRPF, Army and the local police launched a joint operation. As they closed in on the hiding terrorists, they came under fire, and an encounter ensued. Saifullah was killed on the spot. He was one of the last surviving members of the Burhan Wani group

TOOK OVER HIZBUL MUJAHIDEEN IN MAY

- Saifullah had succeeded Riyaz Naikoo as the Hizbul chief soon after Naikoo was killed by security forces in Pulwama in May
- He is the third Hizbul leader to be eliminated since the 2016 killing of Burhan Wani. Saifullah was involved in many attacks on security forces and played a key role in attracting youth to militancy | P10

200
TERRORISTS KILLED IN KASHMIR SO FAR THIS YEAR: POLICE

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • JAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILUPURAM • KOLLAM • WARANGAL • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

₹1L cr GST yield after 8 months

Finance Ministry sees it as an indicator of economic recovery, but experts are wary

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

WITH the Goods and Service Tax (GST) mop-up in October crossing ₹1 lakh crore for the first time in the current fiscal, mainly on account of the current festival season, the Finance Ministry saw in it an indicator of economic recovery though experts continued to be wary.

The overall October collection was ₹1,05,155 crore. The last time GST revenue had crossed the ₹1 lakh crore milestone was in February 2020, when it totted up ₹1,05,366 crore. The total number of GSTR-3B returns filed till October 31 is 80 lakh.

"The growth in GST revenue as compared to that in months of July, August and September, 2020 of -14%, -8% and 5% respectively clearly shows the trajectory of recovery of the economy and, correspondingly, of the revenues," the Finance Ministry said in a statement.

However, experts warned it is too early to predict recovery. "Given the festivities, collections in November could also be robust. We would need to see if this trend continues after November," PwC India partner Pratik Jain said.

Eight million returns were filed as the last date for claiming input tax credit for 2019-20 was September 30 and a lot of companies must have carried out a yearly reconciliation and asked their vendors to file returns or report missing transactions, among other factors, he reasoned.

Of the total GST collection in October, CGST was ₹19,193 crore, SGST ₹25,411 crore, IGST ₹52,540 crore and cess ₹8,011 crore. The total revenue earned by Central and the state governments after regular settlement in October is ₹44,285 crore and ₹44,839 crore respectively.

The compensation cess collection rose to ₹8,011 crore as against ₹7,124 crore the previous month. Of this, ₹932 crore was from imports as against ₹788 crore in September.

Indian-American factor in battleground states

PUSHKAR BANAKAR @ New Delhi

AT under 1% of the US population, Indian-Americans don't count for much in the country's November 3 presidential elections. But which way they will swing in eight key battleground states — Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Michigan, Minnesota, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin — could impact the final outcome, as these states collectively hold 24% of electoral college votes (see box).

The candidate who gets at least 270 electoral college votes wins the jackpot, not the one who bags the highest popular votes, as the 2016 experience showed. Needless to say, every vote counts in swing states.

Unlike in the rest of the US, these swing states are not clearly Democrat- or Republican-leaning, so Indian-Americans could play a marginal yet decisive role there.

The prosperous Indian-American community is so thinly spread out in the 50 US states that in almost all of them, they number less than 0.5% of the average population. But in the swing states, their numbers are better.

According to the 2010 US Census, Indian-Americans make up 0.66% of the population on an average in the swing states with Georgia having the highest, 0.99%, and Wisconsin the lowest, 0.4%.

"Indian Americans make up only 0.82% of the eligible voters, which is not much. But they are significant for a few reasons. First, because of their presence in swing states like Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin," said Kriti Upadhyaya, a researcher at the Washington-based Centre for Strategic and International Studies.

Citing her institute's tally, she said the Indian-American population is 1,56,000, 1,25,000 and 37,000 respectively in these three states.

"In these states where the 2016 victory was achieved through rather narrow margins, each vote counts and the Indian-Americans make up a vote bank that can make or break a candidate's chances of victory," she added.

CONTINUED ON: P9

MODI SLAMS RJD, CONGRESS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi mocked RJD's Tejashwi Yadav and Congress' Rahul Gandhi, saying they stood for "jungle raj" in Bihar | P10

WITH THIS ISSUE
THE ESSENTIAL CAMPUS DIGEST edex
34 PAGES, INCLUDING 16 OF edex (TABLOID) & 4 of City Express

Lokayukta raps govt over teachers' pay dues

PEARL MARIA D'SOUZA
@ Bengaluru

AT least 532 principals and teachers of 450 Morarji Desai and Kittur Rani Chennamma residential schools spread across the state have gone without salaries for up to seven months. Now, Karnataka Lokayukta Justice Vishwanatha Shetty has taken suo motu cognizance of this and ordered the Social Welfare Department to redress their grievances and ensure that the dues are paid at the earliest.

"It is needless to point out that the wages paid to an employee are not gratuitous payments. It is the amount earned by an employee for the work he/she has carried out," Justice Shetty reminded the State Government, adding that the delay in paying salaries to the principals and teachers seriously affects their right to life (Article 21 of the Constitution), and the quality of education of children studying in these residential schools. P5

EXPRESS READ

Vacate Gilgit-Baltistan, India tells Pakistan

New Delhi: Pakistan should immediately vacate the Indian territory of Gilgit-Baltistan which the Imran Khan government declared as its provisional fifth province, India said on Sunday.

Covid battle: UK heads for complete lockdown

London: The UK has crossed the grim milestone of one million coronavirus cases, as it prepares for a second complete lockdown to curb the rapid spread. PM Boris Johnson declared new stay-at-home rules for England.

CALL FOR TESTS

Delivery boys may be at high Covid risk: Docs

RANJANI MADHAVAN & IFFATH FATHIMA @ Bengaluru

WITH contact tracing becoming a herculean task due to the rampant spread of the Novel Coronavirus, there may be no saying where or how a person contracted the virus. Consider this: While undertaking a Covid testing drive for restaurant staff in Koramangala, it was found that those testing positive first were the employees stationed at the delivery counter who handed over food packages to personnel for delivery to customers. Volunteers conducting the tests then realised that the first possible contacts were the delivery boys of the various services.

"Food delivery boys either get infected or spread the virus at the restaurant/shop where they pick up the order and at the point where they deliver the food parcels to customers. There also have places where they group together and wait for the orders to be prepared, when they are seen not wearing masks properly," said Rahul Francis, a volunteer with the testing team at Koramangala which undertook the drive. P3

DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH EMPOWERMENT AND SPORTS

Ekalavya, Lifetime Achievement, Karnataka Kreeda Ratna, Kreeda Poshaka and N.S.S. Awards Ceremony
2017, 2018 and 2019

Date : 02.11.2020, Monday at 11.00 AM
Venue : 'Banquet Hall', Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru

Presentation of Awards
Sri B.S. Yediyurappa
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Government of Karnataka

In the august presence of
Sri D.V. Sadananda Gowda
Hon'ble Minister for Chemicals and fertilisers Govt. of India

Release of 'Sadhana Sanchike'
Sri C.T. Ravi
Hon'ble Minister for Youth Empowerment and Sports, Kannada & Culture and Tourism

Presided by
Sri Rizwan Arshad
Hon'ble MLA Shivajinagar Assembly Constituency

Chief Guests

Dr. C.N. Ashwath Narayan
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Higher Education, IT & BT, Science & Technology

Sri R. Ashok
Hon'ble Minister for Revenue

Sri S. Suresh Kumar
Hon'ble Minister for Primary & Secondary Education and Sakala

Sri V. Somanna
Hon'ble Minister for Housing

Sri S.T. Somashekhar
Hon'ble Minister for Co-operation

Sri B.A. Basavaraja
Hon'ble Minister for Urban Development

Sri K. Gopalaiah
Hon'ble Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs

Sri S. R. Vishwanath
Political Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister and Hon'ble MLA, Yelahanka Assembly Constituency

Dr. K. Govindaraj
Hon'ble MLC and President, Karnataka Olympic Association

And Hon'ble Deputy Chief Ministers, Ministers, MPs, MLAs and MLCs People's Representatives and Guests.

Dr. G. Kalpana I.A.S.
Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports

K. Srinivas I.A.S.
Commissioner Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports

As is enshrined in our Constitution, to develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country

COVID-19: DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE

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